

SAVANT

Arts & Communications Magnet Academy
11375 SW Center ST. Beaverton, OR 97005

Volume 12 | Issue 5



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CALENDAR

May 5
Cinco de Mayo

MAY 10
Mother's Day

MAY 12-15
Senior Capstone Week

MAY 16
Senior Prom at the Crown Ballroom
8 pm

MAY 22
No School

May 25
Memorial Day - no school

MAY 20
Community Night
6 pm

MAY 29 & 30
ACMA Dance Recital
3 pm and 7:15 pm

A special
thanks
to the ACMA
PTO for their
generous
contribution
to Savant

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PUBLICATION POLICIES

All opinions expressed within are those of the individual student reporters and editors, which may not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the school or the rest of the Savant staff. This youth zine is written by and for middle and high school students. Its articles are designed with a sixth through twelfth grade audience in mind. All letters to the editors and advice columnists will be printed, space providing, and will not be discriminated against except in the case of libelous information or personal attacks. The staff reserves the right to edit any letters, and names may be withheld upon request.

MISSION STATEMENT

Savant is a student-organized, student-written youth zine. We of the Savant staff believe that school journalism belongs to the students and that school news should be reported by the students. We also believe that each art pathway at our school should be represented in the paper as equals to the best of our ability. We, the Savant staff, pledge to work hard, dig deep, and most importantly, to represent our unique, amazing school to its fullest extent.

FRONT AND CENTER

\$850 MILLION SHORTFALL

Claire Aubin, Staff Reporter

Rumors about the school budget have been flying around ACMA. A possible four-day week, shorter school year, and an earlier school end time were all under consideration. The truth is that the Beaverton School District has received a portion of money from the Oregon Legislature, that allows us to finish out this school year. However, next year is a different story.

"Like other school districts, Beaverton has begun planning for more shortfalls next year," says reporter David Holley of the Beaverton Valley Times. "The

most current projections tell the school district to prepare for \$15 to \$21 million in reductions for the 2009-10 budget."

What do these shortfalls mean to ACMA? Art supplies, field trips, and staff members might very well be cut, just to name a few examples.

The Beaverton School District has already begun a hiring freeze, saving \$.5 million. Other plans to make up the deficit include the district's Sustainability Fund and savings from department and school budgets. These three plans together make up for \$4 million, although that is certainly not enough.

Oregon faces close to an \$850 million shortfall for the current budget year ending June 30, and the projected deficit for the following two years is nearly \$3 billion.

The schools could end up with much more debt than is currently predicted (\$26-50 million) in the long run, but the state is doing as much as possible to make sure that students do not continue to suffer from the financial crisis. The economic forecast that we will be receiving in May will provide us with a much better view of our current situation, so for now, the school district and its students will persevere.

CAN YOU DIG IT?

ACMA's GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

Kimberly Moorhead, Staff Reporter

The sun shone upon ACMA on March 12, the day of the ground-breaking ceremony for the new performing arts center. For years, the planning and design of the future performing arts center had been in the works and on March 12, 2009 the construction began.

People clapped and cheered as a giant bulldozer pushed its way through the crowd of students and parents, and parked near a mound of dirt at the main entrance. Principal Michael Johnson made his way to the podium and gave a speech about the

process of creating a building of such grand design. He gave thanks for the beautiful weather and to the construction crews making the event possible.

Nathan Avakian, a junior, gave his perspective as a student and part of the design team. Avakian noted that the new Performing Arts Center would be "a breath of fresh air." The crowd watched as the group of people instrumental in the planning and construction broke into the new ground beside the school. The ceremony was finished with cookies and punch in the hallway. The Center itself is scheduled to be finished by January 2010.



NOTES TO THE EDITORS

Responses to *Teenage Apathy*

Brandon Fisher, Eighth grade

Listen, I entirely agree with what you said in Savant about teens being lazy, and we ought to get off our butts and do something about it. If you'd like, a great book on this would be *Do Hard Things* by Alex and Brett Harris. Thanks again for the article!

Mikki Benson, Sophomore

Many of my peers and I completely disagree with the *Teenage Apathy* article in Savant Issue four. The research is clearly biased to the point where it seems it only addressed the "preppy" population at ACMA. If you're going to write an article addressing all teenagers, you need to broaden your research.

I'm far from apathetic. During the presidential elections, I paid attention from the beginning. My first choice for president was not Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama. Instead, it was Dennis Kucinich. Have you even heard of him? Maybe you're the apathetic one.

Instead of generalizing your basis for research with the type of people you hang out with, do some real research. Perhaps I'm blowing this out of proportion, but I'm not going to sit idly and watch you paintbrush the entire teenage population with your personal bias.

Notes to the Editors can be sent to savantcrew@gmail.com



Images by Darion Jones

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TAKING ACTION

SHAVING THE WAY

Hannah Jolley, Diversion Editor

Last April, 207 men, women and children walked out of the Barracuda Bar in Portland, bald. I had the privilege of being one of them. We shaved our heads for the non-profit organization St. Baldrick's, a volunteer-run program that raises money for juvenile cancer research. Those who participated are given the option of donating to the organization, whether they shaved their head or not.

Since 2005, St. Baldrick's has been raised over \$12 million dollars for cooperative research between doctors on children's cancer. The money, given to institutions, creates jobs in pediatric cancer research, allowing for new doctors to be trained by current experts.

This event is unique because it is set in a welcoming, fun, and powerful environment. As soon as I walked into the bar, I heard laughter and music. There were people bawling and embracing while sharing stories that I felt honored to hear. The patrons were smiling, coming together on this

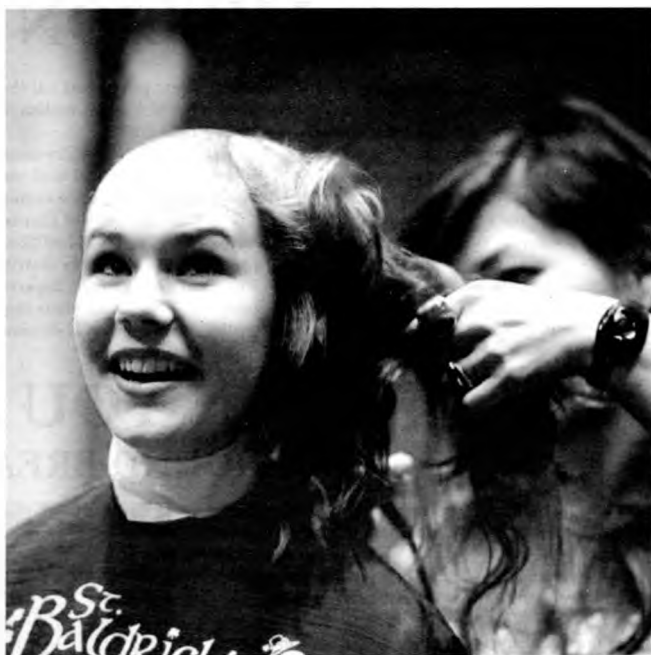
day for the same purpose.

I went to St. Baldrick's for a reason: a family friend of ours had found out she had a malignant tumor during her first few weeks at Princeton University. She was promptly sent home and given treatment. Her mother took a huge part in organizing this St. Baldrick's event and my family was invited.

When I arrived at the gathering, I did not plan on shaving my head. In fact, I was quite set on keeping my long hair, which I considered part of my identity; however, my mind soon changed when I saw everyone around me sharing in the experience.

The kinship I feel with others who wear St. Baldrick's t-shirts, or have shaved their head their heads for this cause makes me proud to have shown my support. We all came together for the same cause with the same idea in mind.

Kids with cancer do not have a choice; they have to lose their hair. Last April, all 207 donors chose to shave their head's because they believed that finding a cure should not mean losing a part of one's identity.



<http://www.stbaldricks.org/home/>
888-899-BALD

Image by Craig Mitchell/dyer

NONPROFIT HELPS OVERSEAS

AMERICAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS LINE

Emily Miller, Copy Editor

ADDITIONAL INFO:

Mission Statement – The American Domestic Violence Crisis Line works with abused American women and children in foreign countries to provide domestic violence and child abuse advocacy, resources and tools so that they can navigate the complicated jurisdictional, legal & social international landscapes, to be able to live their lives free of abuse either in the foreign country or back in the United States. This is achieved via an international toll free crisis line, 866-USWOMEN, accessible from 175 countries, serving a population estimated at 6 million American civilians overseas.

The American Domestic Violence Crisis Line (ADVCL), founded by Paula Lucas in 1999, is a non-profit organization that works to provide advocacy and help to abused families overseas.

This idea manifested in Lucas' mind after she fled from an unsafe home in the Middle East, receiving little to no help as she and her three children escaped to America.

Lucas' youngest son, Tariq Mitri, is a sophomore at ACMA. It has been ten years since his family flew to Oregon in hopes of a better life.

"I started [ADVCL] in response to what the kids and I had experienced—being abused in a foreign country and not having any resources to help us," explained Lucas.

She struggled in the beginning. A lot of outreach had to be done through embassies and state departments. However, Lucas' budding organization collided with resistance that was both professionally and personally based.

"Abuse involves a lot of blaming," she said. "People seem to think that this kind of thing

is a family matter rather than a societal problem."

Disagreeing with their negative philosophy, Lucas pushed on. She was determined to provide a way for women and children to cross country borders to get to a safer location. The popularity and success of her organization has risen dramatically since it first started, due in part to publicity and sponsorship. In 2005 and 2007, ADVCL was a top contender for the Volvo For Life Awards, a prestigious recognition for non-profit organizations. This sparked awareness for the foundation. She, along with her three sons, appeared on the Today Show in May of 2007.

The American Domestic Violence Crisis Line has helped approximately 2,000 families. Lucas says that she tends to have long-term relationships with those that she assists, helping them through their further legal obstacles.

"I wanted to help other people, and this was an area that I felt needed change," Lucas reflected. "It helped me make sense of what we went through. I think this was my therapy."

<http://www.866uswomen.org/news/news.cfm>

Hotline – 1-800-799-7233

SUPPORT FAIR TRADE

A teenager might wonder how he or she can best support Fair Trade. David Funkhouser, employee of Transfair USA, believes opportunities to support fair trade present themselves everyday. Each persons daily actions contribute to the cause of fair trade on a global scale.

"It takes just a few people to change things," Mr. Michels stated, his mind clearly made up. "You gotta start somewhere."

Here are some ideas:

- Purchase Fair Trade products for yourself or as gifts for family and friends.

- Visit www.transfairusa.org, go to "Get Involved". Click on "Organize" in the menu. Use links to learn how to host a Fair Trade event.

- Create works of art, flyers or pamphlets about Fair Trade and present or distribute them to the public.

- Join the United Student for Fair Trade at <http://www.usft.org/> and thus become part of a growing group of teenagers dedicated to promoting Fair Trade.

- Educate the managers of local stores, cafes and restaurants to carry Fair Trade certified products and request that they carry them.

- Persuade your teacher or other school authorities to include Fair Trade in your curriculum.

FAIR TRADE

STRIVING FOR EQUALITY

Katy Elliott, Staff Reporter

INTRODUCING FAIR TRADE

Fair trade is the kind of trade practice that ensures both producer and consumer get profit from retail that will support each of their families. Fair trade non-profit organizations educate third world farmers about the global market. Third world farmers and fair trade non-profit organizations assess the needs of third world farmers, compare the needs to what prices one may reasonably demand of the global market, and democratically set standards for what qualifies as fair trade. These standards also extend beyond the matter of prices; fair trade products rely on humane labor. Pro-fair trade companies buy agricultural products, such as cocoa, directly from farmers that have set the price themselves. Pro-fair trade companies buy directly from the farmers at a reasonable price the farmers set.

"[Fair trade] is a very good idea because it can give a lot of benefits to people who don't have them," said Morgan Sully, seventh grade.

An anonymous junior agreed that fair trade is a good idea. She also said that farmers selling their products for low prices are at least better off than they would be if their crops rotted while they waited for better deals.

Right now, not too many companies practice fair trade. However, as consumers buy more fair trade products and more fair trade non-profit organizations spread the word about their fair trade standards, food businesses are further encouraged to adopt fair

trade practices.

A consumer can identify a fair trade product in his or her grocery store by the label of the product. Pro-fair trade companies have labels that either have a seal of approval from a fair trade non-profit organization, or state that they buy the materials of the product directly from small, local farms of third world countries. Transfair USA is the most well-known fair trade non-profit organization in America. Their logo, signifying that a product has been reviewed by them and guaranteed to be fair trade friendly, is shown to the right.

Endangered Species Chocolate is an example of a chocolate company that uses a label that states the cocoa has been bought directly from third world farmers.

Buying fair trade agricultural products, such as chocolate, benefits the environment more than buying from large commercial farms. According to Transfair USA's website FAQ page, "Currently over sixty percent of fair trade certified coffee in the U.S. is also certified organic." Small, third world farms usually cannot afford to use pesticides or clear large plots of land. Small cocoa farms usually grow cocoa naturally in the shade of old growth rainforests and without pesticides. In other words, the only realistically affordable method of farming for these families is the organic method, which is the friendliest to the environment.

WHAT SHOULD D.C. DO?

When asked what would happen if the White House took on responsibility in supporting fair trade, Jeff Michels, History and Economics teacher, instantly replied that "The world would be a better place."

In classic Michels fashion, he went on to explain that "...monetary value of assets would be more equally distributed and because money is power, power would also be more equally distributed..." One can infer that more equality in power helps give individuals protection against slavery.

"Global diseases would decline because citizens of third world countries could take care of themselves better and practice better hygiene if they were wealthier..." Michels continued. Today, one of the leading causes of disease is lack of clean water and sanitation in poor communities.

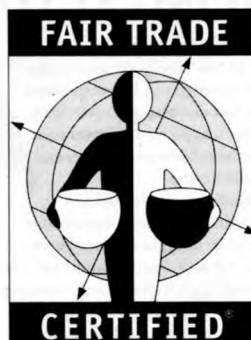
WEBSITES FOR FAIR TRADE

- <http://www.fairtraderesource.org/>
Learn about fair trade towns and events near you.

- <http://www.transfairusa.org/>
Learn how TransFair USA operates and more about fair trade activism.

- <http://www.fairtrade.net/>
Learn more about fair trade certification and its standards.

- <http://www.usftf.org/>
Join or learn more about United Students for fair trade.



ROAD BLOCKS

However, as World History teacher MaryAnn Campbell describes, there are unfair obstacles in that path to freedom. Under normal circumstances, third world farmers sell their crops to middlemen. These are people who each buy the third world agricultural products, at a price they set. Middlemen then resell the products to food companies, such as your typical grocery store. Because many third world farmers do not have the opportunity or resources to observe today's global market, they cannot negotiate with middlemen to obtain a price for their crops that will sustain their family's needs. Even if a farmer managed to be educated about reasonable prices, it's excruciatingly difficult to demand higher prices for his own crops when scores of other farmers will sell theirs for less. In order to have significant change, many farmers need to be able to negotiate better prices.

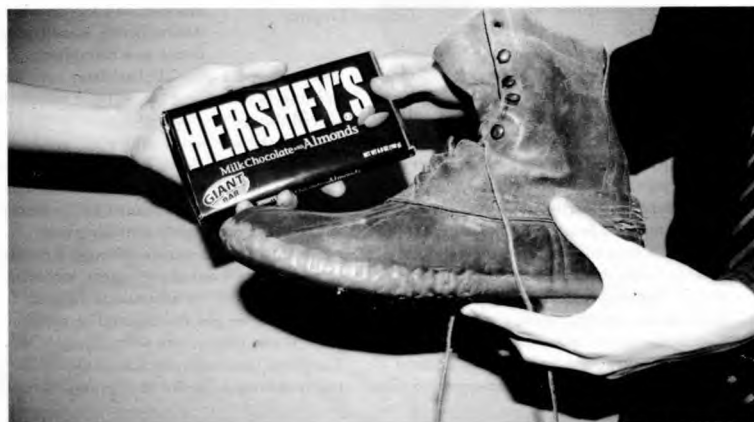


Image by Peter Gicking

SECRET SLAVES

On the Ivory Coast of Africa, children slaves work and die to provide almost half of the world's cocoa bean supply, especially for the chocolate of such familiar companies as M&M/Mars, Hershey's and Cadbury. Nearly two thirds of the children are under the age of 14 and work 12 hours a day. All the while, they are malnourished, abused and living on a farm, instead of with their families. Medical care for these children is unheard of, even though they wield heavy machetes for harvesting cocoa.

Sadaf Qureshi, a 2008 essay contest winner for The Humanist magazine, wrote about the slaves in his essay, "Blood Chocolate." Qureshi points out America's ignorance. While most of us wouldn't dream of intentionally supporting slavery today, thousands of American families unwittingly eat chocolate made with cocoa beans farmed by slaves.

"I feel guilty," sophomore Jade Deal says. "I am affecting what happens, but I can't

help it because I can't find a better comfort food than Hershey's."

Jamilla Ventura, freshman, says, "I think why we don't have more fair trade in our culture is because we have so much consumerism."

Sadaf Qureshi tells a story in "Blood Chocolate" about "...a U.S. bill proposing a federal system to certify and label eligible cocoa products as 'slave-free'..." that was on its way to our senators in 2001. This bill was dismissed before the U.S. Senate was able to consider it, due to help from "...the Chocolate Manufacturer's Association and a couple of former senators..."

If third world farmers were able to support themselves properly, they would have a safeguard against becoming slaves. Third world countries, who have little of their own industries, could start their own farms and sell their own crops to protect their independence and move along the road of self-improvement.

SHOP FAIR TRADE

The following cafes and stores carry entirely or almost entirely Fair Trade products:

- **Ava Roasteria**
4685 SW Hall Blvd
Beaverton, Oregon 97005
<http://www.avaroaeria.com/>
phone: (503) 641-7270

- **World Village**
914 N.W. Everett Street
Portland, OR 97209
email: info@portlandvillages.org
phone: (503) 231-8832

Visit <http://www.transfairusa.org/content/WhereToBuy/> for stores and cafes carrying Fair Trade Certified products.

Order a Fair Trade Coffee Blend certified by Transfair USA at:

- Starbucks
- Peet's Coffee and Tea
- Tully's Coffee

<http://store.gxonlinestore.org/>
Shop Online at the entirely Fair Trade Global Exchange Store

DIVERSIONS

ENTERTAINMENT

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

Luisa Anderson, Speak Editor

Irish playwright Brien Friel is largely famous for illustrating social and political struggle in Ireland, and *Dancing At Lughnasa* does little to dispute his reputation. Showcasing Tyler Brachmann's directing debut as ACMA theatre's former student teacher, *Dancing At Lughnasa* transports an extraordinary cast to rural Ireland during the summer of 1936.

The grim effects on the country from a world war are distinct. The emergence of nationwide turmoil manifest into the lives and relationships of the characters.

Michael Evans, played by Kevin Burnette, recalls his childhood living with his single mother, Chris Mundy, played by Emily Miller, and her four sisters.

Chris struggles in her complex relationship with Michael's seldom seen father, Gerry Evans, portrayed by Alex Melius. Sophomore Kylie Dehaven played Agnes Munday. Tori Freitag makes a promising mark on stage in her first acting role as Rose, the youngest Mundy sister. Rose is caught in the midst of a love relationship denied by the domineering Kate. In her last high school performance, Kate is portrayed spot on by senior Signe Larsen. Jack, played by sophomore David Sunic, returns to Ireland after spending time in Africa.

4 out of 5 stars

Director: Tyler Brachmann

Genre: Drama

Dancing At Lughnasa explores the conventions of the family structure; the high and low moments in life sometimes unify people, but can also separate them. Each character's hope in the restoration of happiness in their life resonates around the family's wireless radio.

Maggie Mundy, played by Hayley McCurdy, provoked the most memorable scene of the play. Maggie and her three sisters broke out into dance around the radio - foot stomping, high kicking, and shouting upon impulse. This scene was perfectly delivered, encapsulating the release of emotion and a giving in to desire, firmly establishing dance as a metaphor

throughout the play. Michael later says that dancing is a language "to whisper private and sacred things."

No detail was too small for the production to overlook, even down to the fake fire in the fireplace and the worn concrete walls. The set was very well constructed and realistic.

The cast overall gave a striking and professional performance. Though a number of actors stuck out above others, including those who could better emulate an Irish accent, playwright Friel would be proud. My favorite play of the year, *Dancing At Lughnasa* concludes the school year with much optimism for the next production.



Images by Clara Ridabock

WATCHMEN

Claire Aubin, Staff Reporter

When rabid fans meet a graphic novel once said to be "un-filmable" due to special effects, explosions tend to ensue. Despite its "R" rating, *Watchmen* is attracting many underage viewers.

With graphic sex scenes, copious amounts of blood, and the kind of butt-kicking that only ex-superheroes can deliver, this highly anticipated film met and exceeded expectations. It is visually stunning with gorgeously grimy cities and rich colors that utterly spellbind watchers.

4.5 out of 5 stars
Director: Zack Snyder
Genre: Action

This breath of fresh air came at a time in which it is desperately needed, a time where there aren't so many standout comic book adaptations. A story of superheroes-turned-vigilantes, it is a depressing view of what history could have been like had there been superheroes. It does end differently than the *Watchmen* graphic novel that it was based upon, so viewers should be wary of the unexpected conclusion. A strong stomach and slow gag reflex are a must-have if your plans include *Watchmen*, and believe me, they should.

THE COURTS

Hannah Jolley, Diversions Editor

I expected a sort of euphoria at the high school dance club, The Courts. However, there is none to be found. All soul is stifled under too-short shorts and sports bras; making the very thin line between dressing like a prostitute and being one even more apparent.

The music played is outdated, consisting of anthems considered "cool" a year ago, if not more. There is hardly any variety in the music and the dancers make it obvious they are there only to get attention. People dance and dress in a way that is not only tasteless, but altogether trashy.

The Courts is a spectacle in and of itself. It holds

1 out of 5 stars
14523 SW Millikan Way
Beaverton Or 97005
http://blackboardmusic.com/army/courts_dances.php

some of the most obscene behavior I have even seen in a group of teenagers. All of their pride and self-respect go out the door when they step onto the basketball court turned dance floor. Girls strip down to barely anything, and boys strut around with a smirk. When the dance ends, they go home and remember that night for what it was, then tell their parents exactly what they want to hear.

To top it all off, the Courts is sponsored by the army. This wouldn't be a bad thing if they aren't recruiting at the event. Whether it is the music, the ignored rules, or just the people, everything about The Courts screams hypocrisy. I will never subject myself to such disgusting behavior again in my life.



Image by Whitney Dalby

SPEAK

THIS I BELIEVE...

JoAnna Wendel, Co-Editor

I believe in Laughter. Yes, I know everybody says it's totally cliché, but I truly believe that laughter is the best medicine. Let's face it. The world is a funny place. If you sit down on a bench at the mall, and you see that guy carrying shopping bags with half-naked men on them for their girlfriends, and you hear the girls obsessing over their eyelash length, and you see a kiosk guy diggin' for gold, you'll soon be endlessly entertained.

That video of a dog sleep-running and then hurling himself at a wall is the funniest thing I've ever seen in my life. That video of the turtle trying to have intimate relations with a shoe makes me snort milk out of my nose, even when I'm not drinking milk. There are just things that happen in everyday life (ie tripping, running into things, getting hit by stuff, farts, poop, sex, etc) that are just plain funny, no questions asked.

All it takes is an open mind and a pair of open eyes. Humor requires a person to re-lax. If you get offended by farts, how can you enjoy the

hilarity that is a fart? If you get offended by sex jokes, how can you possibly ever get to enjoy the hilarity that is sex? Being able to laugh means you're comfortable in your given situation, and you're comfortable with the people around you. And if you can laugh at yourself occasionally, it means you're comfortable with you. That's the most important thing of all.

Even scientists agree that laughter may not be a response to something typically "funny" at all – but a tool for social survival. It's even been proven that laughter lowers cortisol (a stress hormone) levels in the brain. Patients in pain have said that they feel better after watching a humorous film. Haven't you ever hated someone, but the instant the two of you laugh at something you're BFFs? I know the closest friends I have are the ones that make me laugh. I'm completely drawn to funny people. I am also quite easily amused.

The smallest, most significant things and the stupidest jokes can be gut-wrenchingly funny. The joke that makes me laugh, no matter what, is "What's brown and sticky? A stick." I just cracked

up while typing that. My friend showed me this cool trick: draw a straight line on the thumb-side of your index finger. It's a straight line. Now bend your index finger inwards as much as you can – you now have a circle. I know when I saw that, I broke a rib. Go to icanhascheezburger.com and all you'll see is stupid captions under ridiculous pictures of cats, and I guarantee you'll be chortling in minutes. Walk to the store, and notice how all those teenage boys are dressed in the same baggy plaid jacket and the same baggy pre-ripped jeans and the same oversize shoes... classic. Whenever I step foot into Hollister I instantly crack up. It's so dim, and the cologne is seeping into my pores and that giant half-naked guy's eyes are following me wherever I go...it's so bad it's good.

Laughter can only do good things in this world. My advice to you is this: instead of worrying about how sucky the world is, instead of getting depressed about everything in the world that is sad and dark, turn on Jon Stewart and he'll show you how easy it is to see the humor.

RESHAPING THE ECONOMY

Katy Elliott, Staff Writer

There is a silver lining in the gloom of the recession and pending depression. As major corporations are failing and prices are deflating, Americans have a chance to reshape their economy for the better. If consumers support independent businesses, they will help create new jobs. This would help boost America out of this economic slump.

Economist Joe Cartwright said that fellow economists "tend to give us the wrong words. They talk about 'recession and recovery' but that's not literally true. Many of the jobs that are lost won't come back."

Small businesses provide America with an opportunity to put its economy on a new track. Seventy years

ago, President Roosevelt started new construction projects to help end the Great Depression. Starting new businesses, new projects, and making new jobs available through innovation and will likely help us to climb out of the current recession.

As President Obama stated in his speech on March 16 to Congress, we need to create a new small business-lending fund to aid "...the consumers and entrepreneurs who keep this economy running."

Right now is the opportune time to support independent businesses. The company that survives a recession is the company that receives the most consumer dollars. Clients can use their own wallets to decide, or "vote" for, which businesses last through harsh economic times.

The lack of income for

consumers helps deflate American currency and money is becoming scarce. The recession pushed Oregon's unemployment rate from 11 percent to 12.1 percent according to the state survey released on April 13. Businesses are desperately slashing prices, in an attempt to help make up for the lack of consumer spending. In times such as this, businesses need every dollar they can get from any customer. Consumers can use their increased leverage over the nature of the economy by buying products that adhere to their personal needs and moral standards.

When a consumer has little money, it is all the more important to spend what they have the best way they can. Their actions can help define the future of America's economy.

Daniel M. Yaillen, D.M.D., M.S.D

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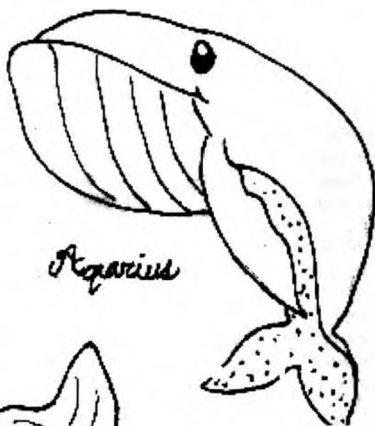
Member, American Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry,
Oregon Dental Association, Invisalign Premier Provider

S.A.V.A.SCOPE'S

Allison Stein, Staff Astrologist

Aquarius (January 20 – February 19)

Your head will be, or already is, flooded with new ideas and questions. Find answers and solutions if you can. If not, throw those ideas away. Now is not the time to get stuck in the past.



Aquarius

Pisces (February 20 – March 20)

There's nothing more frightening than a bad grade, and you know it right now. Try not to overreact, and talk to your teacher about a way to raise it. You'll find that it's easier than you think.



Pisces

Aries (March 21 – April 20)

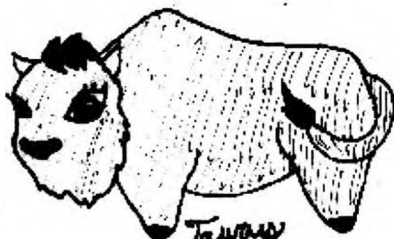
Due to your headstrong and cheerful personality, all upcoming projects will be no sweat! However, be warned: innovation is good. Juggling fire in the portables is not.



Aries

Taurus (April 21 – May 21)

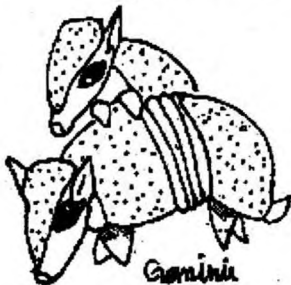
Hard as it may be, differing from your normal schedule will reward you. You may gain new friends and discover new hobbies, so get out and explore the world.



Taurus

Gemini (May 22 – June 21)

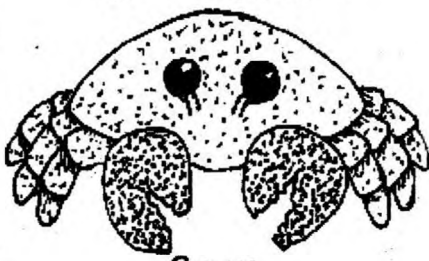
Stop talking for a bit and you might just learn something new. Adventures are on the way, but only if you stop and listen.



Gemini

Cancer (June 22 – July 23)

Romance is in the air! However, he/she might be a bit more attracted to you than you are to him/her. Give love a chance and see if your soul mate is right under your nose.



Cancer

Leo (July 24 – August 23)

Whoa there, Sparky! Life might feel out of whack, but that's because you're overworking yourself. Give yourself a break and everything will fall into place.



Leo

Virgo (August 24 – September 23)

It may seem like nobody needs you right now, but sooner or later somebody will need your help. In the mean time, offer assistance to somebody you see struggling and your efforts will not be in vain.



Virgo

Libra (September 24 – October 23)

Though it may seem hard, you should say 'no' to extra credit and relationships for now. It's time for you to focus on yourself and what you're feeling rather than what the world tells you to feel.



Libra

Scorpio (October 24 – November 22)

Your natural ability to lead makes you a shoe-in for group projects, but try your best not to get angry at your partners when they don't do their part. Just send them reminders... lots of reminders.



Scorpio

Sagittarius (November 23 – December 22)

Your optimistic, big hearted nature has attracted many lovers, but only one of them has their eyes on your companionship. Become friends first, and you'll find a lover through thick and thin.



Sagittarius

Capricorn (December 23 – January 20)

The pay-offs for your hard work will come soon, and you will be pleasantly surprised - or perhaps not surprised at all! However, this doesn't mean that you get any time to slack off... not that you would mind, anyway.



Capricorn